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(*b*) whether the attention of the hon. the Minister was drawn to this matter during his visit to Malabar and whether the hon. the Minister promised to look into the question ;

(*c*) whether the hon. the Minister has looked into the question and whether he has taken any action in pursuance thereof and if not, why not; and

(*d*) whether any cases have been brought to the notice of Government in which the local boards draw the grant given by the Government for this special purpose in advance and divert it for other purposes ?

A.—(*a*) Individual cases of delay in the disbursement of salaries have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(*b*) & (*c*) Yes. The Government think after that some of the taluk boards did pay their teachers whose pay was in arrear.

(*d*) No.

Construction of a bridge over the Khan Sahib Canal.

* 1757 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long the bridge over the Khan Sahib Canal near Kumaratchi has been under construction and when the same will be ready for traffic ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that even before the said bridge is completed and opened for traffic, serious cracks have come into existence and that on that account the opening of the bridge is delayed ;

(*c*) who are the engineers and contractors who designed and built the bridge and what is the amount sanctioned and spent therefor ; and

(*d*) whether the Government have investigated or propose to investigate into the matter of the defects in the construction of the bridge and what action the Government propose to take against the contractors or other parties concerned, and to remedy the defects ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) They have called for a report from the President, District Board, South Arcot.

Issue of memorandum to the Ellore Taluk Board regarding certain adjustment of accounts.

* 1758 *Q.*—Mr. M. NARASIMHA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued a memorandum directing the Ellore Taluk Board in the West Godavari district to adjust the amount that was alleged to have been wrongly credited during the faslis 1332 to 1334 ;

(*b*) if so, what is the amount ;

(*c*) whether the Government have received objections from the Taluk Board, Ellore, in this connexion ;

(*d*) whether the Government will lay the correspondence that has passed between the Government and the Taluk Board, Ellore, on the Council table ; and

(*e*) whether the Government will cause an inquiry to be made in order to know why this matter was delayed so long ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 44,436-15-7.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government consider that no useful purpose would be served by placing the correspondence on the Council table as the Taluk Board has since agreed to refund the excess cess and the Government have sanctioned a loan to enable it to do so.

(e) No. The delay was due to the unwillingness of the Taluk Board to accept the debit and the protracted correspondence indulged in by that body.

Conduct of elections by the Koilkuntla Taluk Board.

*1759 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Taluk Board of Koilkuntla, Kurnool district, fixed any date in the latter part of 1929, or even earlier, for the election of its Vice-President and members to the District Board and, if so, where the election meeting was to take place and when ;

(b) whether the Government directed the postponement of the elections, and if so, why and when and the date of the communication of the order and the place to which the communication was addressed ;

(c) whether the order of the Government directing the postponement of the election reached the President and the members after the elections had taken place and whether the President and the members were in any way responsible for the late receipt of the order by them ;

(d) whether the President, District Board, duly reported to the Government the fact of the elections having taken place before the receipt of the order of the Government postponing the elections and solicited instructions as to whether the results of the elections might be communicated for the necessary publication by the Superintendent of the Government Press ;

(e) whether the Government thereafter called for the explanations of the President, Taluk Board, Koilkuntla, and approved of the elections of the Vice-President of the Taluk Board and of other members to the District Board, and expressed the view that the results of the elections might be duly published and, if so, when ;

(f) whether the President, District Board, Kurnool, sent the name of the elected Vice-President, Venkatalinga Reddi, for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and if so, whether any reminders were received by the Government and the Superintendent of the Government Press to expedite the publication of the name in the Gazette, and if so, on what dates and with what results ;

(g) whether the results of the election of the Vice-President to the Taluk Board and of other members to the District Board have since been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and if so, when and if not, why not, and under what authority ;

(h) whether the Government instructed at any time the Superintendent of the Government Press about the publication or non-publication or delaying the publication of the election results of the Taluk Board, and if so, how often, to what effect, on what dates, for what reasons and under what authority ;